

from the Attorney-General's office, who was protecting the State's rights in the matter. However, my individual protection was especially provided by the efforts of the Medical Society of the State of California.

You, perhaps, are aware of the fact that after this suit was filed against us, the ——— Company refused further continuation of protection under that policy which I had carried with that company for several years, on the grounds that the policy did not cover the points at issue.

I feel that if the members of the Association knew more of the dangers of medical practice that they would not hesitate to join the Medical Society of the State of California and pay its small annual charge.

Very sincerely,

R. A. CUSHMAN, M.D.,
Medical Superintendent.

Concerning articles on the Los Angeles County General Hospital.

(COPY)

THE QUEEN'S HOSPITAL

Honolulu, T. H.,
March 18, 1938.

To the Editor:—Today I received a copy of the February issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, for which I sent an order with stamps to cover to the publication office in San Francisco a couple of weeks ago. I had read in the Los Angeles Times a front-page news article about your editorial and comments on the charging and billing innovations at the Los Angeles County General Hospital and felt keenly interested in the subject.

For the past two hours I have been occupied with the reading of the editorial article, the exhibits and comments. Not a word escaped my attention, so completely was my interest engrossed. I congratulate you upon the manner in which you have handled the whole matter. It is typical of your forceful and effective way of dealing with medical-administrative dilettanteism and confusion whether it be in the realm of ethics or economics. More power to you in this crusade!

I take pleasure in sending you, under separate cover, a copy of the Seventy-eighth Annual Report of The Queen's Hospital, just published. I recall your often expressed desire for a printed report from the Los Angeles County General Hospital. It is no credit to Los Angeles County that they continue to neglect so elemental an obligation to the doctors who perform the medical services in the hospital as well as to the taxpayers who support it, not to mention the universally accepted reciprocal obligations between important hospitals to exchange reports on their experiences. The Queen's Hospital of Honolulu has not missed publishing its annual report for many decades, not even during the worst depression years.

My work here has been pleasant, well received and fruitful of results. I look forward to many years of productive activity in my present position despite my advancing years. I feel as young as ten years ago. The marvelous climate of these islands is exceedingly favorable for my health. . . .

P. O. Box 614.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed): G. W. OLSEN.*

Concerning the May meeting of the American Neisserian Medical Society.

March 16, 1938.

Dear Doctor:

The fourth annual session of the American Neisserian Medical Society will be held in Washington, D. C., on May 16 and 17, 1938, in the Public Health Auditorium located at Nineteenth Street and Constitution Avenue, N. W.

* Mr. G. W. Olsen was formerly superintendent of the California Hospital at Los Angeles, and later, as assistant superintendent of the Los Angeles County General Hospital, the twelve-million-dollar acute unit building was largely placed in usable form under his supervision. In a shift of officers, his work was not recognized. At that time, upon recommendation of Doctor MacEachern of the American College of Surgeons, he received the offer of the superintendency of The Queen's Hospital in Honolulu, where, we have been informed from other sources, his services have given great satisfaction.—Editor.

The session will open with a symposium on sulfanilamid, which will be timely and of great value to everyone. Perrin H. Long, M. D., of the Johns Hopkins Hospital will deliver the principal address. Doctor Long's work puts him in the position of being the country's leading authority on the chemistry, mode of action, and clinical use of sulfanilamid.

Following the presidential address there will be simultaneous meetings of the three following sections: Male Clinical, Female Clinical, Laboratory and Research. The Male Clinical Section will discuss in considerable detail the question of nomenclature, standard record forms, diagnosis, and cure. The Female Clinical Section will discuss diagnosis and cure. The Laboratory and Research Section will discuss bacteriology, serology, and research. The reports of these deliberations as accepted on the following day will become the Society's official opinion and will serve as authoritative information which, when disseminated, will undoubtedly result in clarifying some of the present needless confusion. This would seem to be an important next step toward improving the management and control of gonorrhea.

For further information, address the Office of the Secretary, 113 Bay State Road, Boston, Massachusetts.

OSCAR F. COX, M. D.,
Secretary.

Concerning venereal disease program of the State Board of Public Health.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
SACRAMENTO

San Francisco,

March 23, 1938.

To the Secretary:—Your letter of March 17 addressed to Dr. Howard Morrow has been referred to our office.

This is to advise you that within the next ten days copies of the enclosed letter to physicians will be mailed to all registered physicians in the State. This should clear up any question with reference to the drug distribution program.

We are not in a position as yet to directly subsidize physicians for the care of indigent patients. In the larger centers of population, clinics are available for the care of such cases. Within the next few months it is anticipated that we shall be able to extend our program so that patients in rural districts can be given care. Meanwhile we are furnishing drugs for the treatment of these cases, and in each instance attempting to get the physician to make some arrangement for the patients so that they may be kept under treatment.

If you feel that an article should be prepared for CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE with reference to the drug distribution program, may we hear from you to that effect.

Very truly yours,

MALCOLM H. MERRILL, M.D.,
Chief, Bureau of Venereal Diseases.

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SACRAMENTO

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LETTER No. 3

To the Physicians of California:

The venereal disease control program has progressed to the point where the third objective can now be announced. A restatement of the first two objectives with the addition of the third is as follows:

1. Every case of venereal disease to be reported.